

Food and Society

Last Updated: Thu, 01/29/2026

Course prefix: HTS

Course number: 2018

Section: A

CRN

31640

Instructor first name: Stephanie

Instructor last name: Bryan

Semester: Spring

Academic year: 2026

Course description:

This course traces the development of the global industrial food system—from large-scale agriculture to the long-distance supply chains that disconnect modern diets from seasonality and place. We will examine the deep, interdependent relationships between people, food, and the environment. Our work will pay close attention to the power dynamics, politics, class biases, racial associations, and gender formations that have shaped food production and consumption in the United States from colonization to the present. Along the way, we will explore shifting meanings and experiences of food, how knowledge about food is created and circulated, and how social movements have sought to confront systemic inequities within the food system.

Academic honesty/integrity statement:

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted must be original and properly cited. Plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty will result in immediate consequences as outlined in the university's academic integrity policy.

Core IMPACTS statement(s) (if applicable):

This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Social Sciences area.

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I understand human experiences and connections?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcomes:

- Students will effectively analyze the complexity of human behavior, and how historical, economic, political, social or geographic relationships develop, persist or change.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Intercultural Competence
- Perspective-Taking
- Persuasion